Dr. C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister to examine different aspects of pricing and taxation of petroleum products with a view to stabilizing/rationalizing their prices. The Committee submitted its report on 17.2.2006. The Committee has also *inter alia* recommended to restrict the subsidy on kerosene to BPL families only. The Government has accepted the recommendations of Dr. Rangarajan Committee Report and has decided 'in principle' that subsidy on PDS kerosene be limited to BPL families only. The proposal to work out the modalities to implement this decision and for rationalizing the allocation of PDS kerosene among States/UTs is under the consideration of the Government.

Rajasthan's share in Oil Production

†3614. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil and gas reserves are found in abundance in different regions in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the regions where these reserves have been found and by when production of oil and gas will commence; and

(c) the percentage of Rajasthan's share in this production alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Under Production Sharing Contract (PSC) regime several oil and gas discoveries have been made in the State of Rajasthan. M/s Cairn Energy has made 14 oil and gas discoveries in block RJ-ON-90/1, M/s Focus Energy Ltd. has made 1 gas discovery in block RJ-ON-90/6.

(b) The above discoveries are in the Districts of Barmer, Jalore and Jaisalmer in Rajasthan largely known as Barmer-Sanchare basin. The commercial production of oil & gas from Barmer-Sanchare basin is likely to start in 2008-09.

(c) As per Production Sharing Contract(s) the State Government of Rajasthan will get royalty on oil and gas which is produced & saved from

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

these fields. There will be no sharing of Profit Petroleum with the State Government of Rajasthan from pre-New Exploration Licensing Policy/Joint Venture blocks.

Oil from Barmer-Sanchore basin

†3615. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the commerical production of oil from Barmer-Sanchore basin is likely to begin;

(b) whether and by when the oil and natural gas produced from this area will yield profits to Government;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to provide State share therefrom; and

(d) if so, upto what percentage, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The commerical production from Barmer-Sanchore basin is likely to commence in 2008-09.

(b) Government will get its share of Profit petroleum in terms of the provisions of the concerned Production Sharing Contract. The Profit Petroleum would depend on the development cost and value of the production, which will accrue from these fields. There will be no sharing of Proft Petroleum with the State Government concerned from pre-NELP/JV blocks.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has accepted the recommendations of Twelfth Finance Commission to share Profit Petroleum (PP) and Production Level Payment (PLP) arising out of contracts under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and Coal Bed Methane (CBM) policy with the concerned States in the ratio of 50:50. However, this profit sharing will not be applicable for RJ-ON-90/1 which is pre-NELP and Joint Ventures Block.

Production of Bio-diesel

3616. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.